

In these columns will be found a fair presentation of local and county news of general interest.

THE CHOWAN HERALD

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A HOME NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF CHOWAN COUNTY

Volume III.—Number 20.

Edenton, Chowan County, North Carolina, Thursday, May 14, 1936.

\$1.25 Per Year

Four Meet Death Saturday Night At Chowan Bridge

Two Automobiles Crash Through Wooden Safety Gate

FOUR SAVED

Edenton Girl, Miss Essie Bunch, One of the Victims

Death joined hands with youthful gaiety late Saturday night, snuffing out the lives of four young folks on the Chowan River bridge, and bringing suffering and sadness to their bereaved families, while recording one of the most ghastly catastrophes ever reported in this section of the Albemarle.

Two auto parties of six boys and two girls, which had previously been racing on the Windsor highway with a speed and recklessness encouraged by much laughter and shouting, crashed through one of the flimsy "protecting" gates at the open bridge draw, and were precipitated into the water. The resultant score was 50-50—four were saved and four were drowned.

Those whose lives were sacrificed were:

Essie Bunch, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. King Bunch, of Edenton.

Parker Newbern, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Newbern, of the Capehart Church section of Bertie County.

Thomas Phelps, 18, son of F. H. Phelps, of Merry Hill.

William Smith, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Smith, also of the Capehart neighborhood.

The quartette of survivors were Lloyd Newbern, 18; Kenneth Cobb, 21, and Ralph Freeman, 20, of the Merry Hill section, and Miss Edith Garrett, 18, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Garrett, of Edenton. Lloyd Newbern and Miss Garrett went to the river bottom in their car, but miraculously managed to break their way out and come to the surface where they were rescued. Miss Garrett sustained a broken arm in the struggle and Newbern was badly cut by glass.

No date has yet been set but an inquest into the causes that led up to the accident with a view of placing the blame where it belongs will be held, either by Bertie county officials or in joint session with similar officials from Chowan county. Geographically the accident occurred on the Bertie side of the draw.

It was between 9:30 and 10 o'clock when D. E. Jones was returning to his home in Edenton. Two cars, filled with laughing, happy young folks, he said, went by him at a high rate of speed. Just before the bridge was reached the rear car caught up with and bumped into the front car, but the speed of neither was retarded, and both vehicles continued their chase onto the bridge span. Half-way between the west side and the draw the driver of the first car apparently noticed the draw open to permit a Norfolk boat to go through, and slowed up, coming to a stop at the safety gate.

Whether the rear car could not come to a standstill or did not wish to is not yet determined, but the fact remains it spee ded into the car ahead of it, gave it a powerful bump or push, propelling it through the gate, which was splintered as if a match stick, and toppling it into the water, immediately afterward following it into the river.

Freeman had been riding on the running board of the second car, and Cobb sat in the seat with the driver, who was Phelps. Freeman jumped off to safety and Cobb managed to throw open the car door and leap off on the bridge, also. Phelps and Smith went to their death, however, along with those in the car shoved overboard.

Jones, an eye witness to the accident, and bridge officials operating the draw quickly rescued Miss Garrett and Lloyd Newbern, and sent a hurried telephone call to Edenton police headquarters. Corporal George Dail, of the State Highway Patrol, received it and he and Night Patrolman Bob Pratt responded instantly in Dail's car, reaching the bridge six minutes after the call had come in.

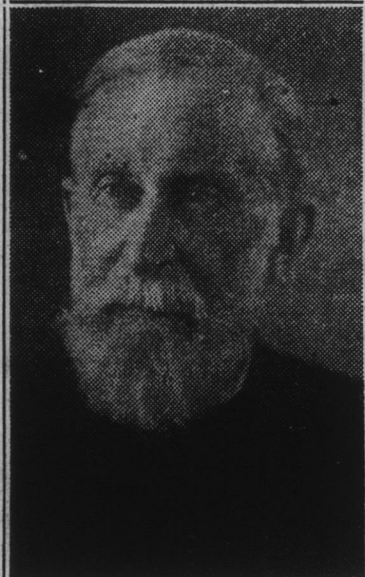
News of the accident spread rapidly and within fifteen minutes it seemed the entire citizenship knew of the ghastly mishap, and began boarding its cars and scooting off to the bridge.

At the scene Dail took charge of things, roped off the bridge preventing traffic which did not get under way again for nearly five hours. Summoned brother Highway Patrolmen from Ahoakie and Williams

Fire Inspection Will Start Monday, June 1

Building Inspector R. K. Hall announced Wednesday that a general fire inspection will begin in Edenton on Monday, June 1. Mr. Hall commented on flues now in use with the brick laid edgewise, and says this is absolutely against the law. He urges all property owners to make the necessary changes or refrain from using such flues.

"HOME" AGAIN



DR. ROBT. B. DRANE

Dr. Drane was among those in attendance at the convention held this week in St. Paul's Church, where he served as rector for over 50 years.

THREE CONTESTS COUNTY OFFICES

Competition For Office of Representative, Board of Education and Constable

Though interest in the gubernatorial election is increasing in Chowan County, there will be only three contests for County offices, these being for Representative in the General Assembly, Board of Education and Constable in the Second Township. All other offices in the County will be uncontested, with nobody filing at closing time Saturday afternoon.

The principal County contest will be for Representative with John F. White, present incumbent, being opposed by W. J. Berryman, who filed Saturday. For the Board of Education there are six candidates of which number five will be elected. The other contest will be for constable in the Second Township.

Candidates who filed with R. P. Badham, chairman of the County Board of Elections, are as follows: For Representative, John F. White and W. J. Berryman; for Sheriff, J. A. Bunch; Judge Recorder's Court, J. N. Pruden; Prosecuting Attorney Recorder's Court, W. S. Privott; Register of Deeds, Maurice L. Bunch; Treasurer, George Hoskins; County Commissioners, D. M. Warren, J. A. Webb, A. D. Ward, A. C. Boyce and W. H. Winborne; Board of Education, Z. T. Evans, Isaac Byrum, S. E. Morris, Mrs. George C. Wood, L. W. Belch and Mrs. E. L. Winslow; Constable, First Township, E. L. White; Constable, Second Township, J. I. Boyce and H. W. Dale; Constable, Third Township, J. J. Byrum.

Considerable interest prevailed as filing time came to a close at 6 o'clock Saturday in that it was rumored that none of the candidates would have opposition in the coming election.

Rotary Club Meets Friday This Week

Due to the activities at St. Paul's Church this week the weekly meeting of the Edenton Rotary Club will be held in the Parish House on Friday at 1 P. M., instead of Thursday, the regular time of meeting.

Rev. C. A. Ashby will be in charge of the program and has planned an appropriate program in honor of Mother's Day (which was observed last Sunday). Mr. Ashby has secured Rev. H. I. Glass, of Elizabeth City, as the principal speaker and urges all Rotarians to be present.

Last Thursday the Rotary meeting was in the form of a fish fry at the Tenhouse, which was thoroughly enjoyed by practically all members of the Club as well as a number of visitors.

200 YEARS OLD



Old St. Paul's Episcopal Church, as sketched by Mrs. Richard D. Dixon, where the 200th anniversary of the building was celebrated today with appropriate exercises in connection with the East Diocese Convention held in the church this week.

FUNERALS HELD ON MONDAY FOR BRIDGE VICTIMS

Large Crowds Attend Last Rites For Four Young People

DOUBLE FUNERAL

Extremely Sad Was the Funeral of Miss Essie Bunch at Rocky Hock

Funerals were held Monday afternoon for the four drowning victims who met death at Chowan River bridge Saturday night when two cars crashed through the safety gate into the water below. All the funerals were very largely attended and reflected the extreme sorrow felt not only by the immediate families but by hosts of other friends and acquaintances.

A double funeral was held at Capehart's Church, where services were held for Parker Newbern and William Smith. The services were in charge of the Rev. Mr. Walton, who was assisted by the Rev. Mr. Shue, of Robersonville, and the Rev. Mr. Culp, of Windsor.

Services were held for Thomas Phelps at his home in Merry Hill with interment being made in the family burying ground near Merry Hill.

The funeral of Miss Essie Bunch was probably the most largely attended and the feeling of sadness was aggravated by the fact that the young lady was a member of the graduating class of Edenton High School. She had been an outstanding student and barely missed being valedictorian of her class.

Services were held in the Rocky Hock Baptist Church with Rev. Frank Cale officiating. The church was crowded with sorrowing friends, and automobiles utilized all available space in the vicinity of the church. The Rev. Mr. Cale spoke briefly, but feelingly, and music by the Rocky Hock choir added to the solemnity of the occasion.

The members of the Senior Class attended the service in a body, space being reserved for them in the center of the church. Members of these being Lance Buffup, Charlie Wood, Jr., Billy Gregory, Vernon Spruill, Worth Spencer and Edward Wozelka. The deceased is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. King Bunch, two brothers, Edward and Linwood, and a sister, Pearl.

Schools' Commencements Begin On Sunday Night

Thirty Students at Edenton School and Fourteen At Chowan High Will Graduate at Exercises Tuesday Night; 18 at Colored School

With final examinations in vogue this week at the Edenton High School, the stage is all set for commencement exercises which will begin Sunday night with the baccalaureate sermon. This exercise will begin at 8 o'clock in the school auditorium, with Rev. W. Frank Cale, Jr., pastor of Rocky Hock Baptist Church, preaching to the graduates. Mr. Cale is a very interesting speaker and it is expected the auditorium will be unable to accommodate those who go to the school. Class Day will follow on Monday

DEMOCRATS WILL CONVENE HERE 2 P. M. SATURDAY

Precincts Named Committees and Delegates Saturday

AT COURT HOUSE

C. E. Kramer Will Not Be Candidate For Chairman

Precinct meetings were held throughout Chowan County on Saturday, at which time the various precincts organized and elected precinct committeemen and delegates to the County Convention. This Convention will be held Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock in the Court House.

The order of business will be the election of a County chairman to replace C. E. Kramer, who will not be a candidate for the office due to his inability to take an active part in the election. A vice chairman will also be elected, which must be a woman, as well as a permanent secretary to the County organization. Next in order will be the reading of messages, if there be any, to the Convention, followed by the election of delegates to the State Convention to be held in Raleigh at 12 o'clock noon on June 12. Chowan County is entitled to 11 delegates and 11 alternates.

The delegates will then receive instructions, if there be any, with reference to presidential candidates, national policies, State policies or other matters. The Convention will come to a close with the presentation of resolutions, petitions and memorials and recognition of the passing of members of the County organization and Democratic office-holders since the last meeting.

In connection with the Chowan County Democratic vote it might be interesting to know that in 1924 the vote for President was 714 and in 1928 it jumped to 936, with 1639 votes cast in 1932. The gubernatorial vote in 1924 was 733, jumping to 1084 in 1928 and 1656 in 1932.

All committeemen and delegates are urged to take note of the time and place of the County Convention and make every possible effort to attend.

The committeemen and delegates elected Saturday at the precinct meetings follow:

East Edenton—Committeemen: T. W. Jones, chairman; Mrs. J. W. (Continued on Page Four)

Convention At St. Paul's Comes To Close Tonight

Clyde Hoey Speaks Tonight At Theatre

Plans are all set for what is expected to be a capacity crowd at the Taylor Theatre tonight (Thursday) when Clyde Hoey, candidate for Governor, will speak. Mr. Hoey's address to the voters will be made between 7 and 8 o'clock.

The doors will be open at 6:30 o'clock and for the entertainment of early-goers Kenneth Floars and his orchestra will play, beginning at 6:45.

Mr. Hoey will leave immediately after his speech for Elizabeth City, where he is scheduled to speak at 9 o'clock.

Outstanding Feature Is Right of Women to Be Delegates

MANY PRESENT

Two Hundredth Anniversary Will Be Celebrated Tonight

Prefacing the bicentennial celebration today of the building of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, more than 200 delegates from all over this section of the State have been in attendance this week at the 53rd annual convention of the Diocese of East Carolina, which was held in St. Paul's, and at which the outstanding features were the agreement to give women the right to sit for the first time a convention delegates, and the stirring opening day address of Bishop Thomas C. Darst, of Wilmington.

It was the first time the convention has been held in St. Paul's in many years, and the younger generation of delegates found much pleasure and joy in seeing the old, historic edifice and its graveyard of immortals, sheltered, as they are, beneath the giant magnolias and oaks and elms, and in joining with its little congregation today in honoring 200 years of earnest church life and activity.

Bishop Thomas C. Darst, of Wilmington, has been presiding at the diocesan convention, will give way at today's historical commemorative exercises to the church rector, Rev. Dr. C. A. Ashby, who will introduce the speakers of the occasion—Rev. Robert B. Drane, D. D., retired octogenarian pastor who served St. Paul's so faithfully for 56 years and whose place in the hearts of its parishioners will ever be warm; John Washington Graham, young local attorney and antiquary who will read an elaborate historical paper culled after several months of research from the ancient vestry records of St. Paul's, and Mrs. C. P. Wales, who was called in at the last minute to take the place of Mrs. Henry Bond, who had expected to make a short talk, but who has been ill while visiting her daughter, in Fayetteville.

Owing to his age it was not expected that Dr. Drane would be called upon for an extended address, but data previously prepared by him has been incorporated into an attractive little folder, which Dr. Ashby and the vestry have had printed for dissemination today. Dr. Drane will, therefore, probably confine his remarks to words of felicitation and love over the opportunity once again given him to meet up with and mingle with his old parishioners—an interchange of mutual love and affection.

The convention session began Tuesday night with addresses by George B. Elliott, of Wilmington, president of the Seaboard Air Line Railway and chancellor of the diocese; Frederick Turner, of the Virginia Seminary, and William Daniels, of the Young People's Service League. Later Tuesday night there was a meeting of the diocesan executive committee.

At 7:30 o'clock yesterday morning the 200 or more delegates gathered in St. Paul's and the Church of St. John the Evangelist for the celebration. (Continued on Page Four)

R. G. SHACKELL IS VERY MUCH ALIVE

Unfounded Rumor That Former Resident Died Caused Many Inquiries From Friends

Rumors circulating in Edenton last week to the effect that R. G. Shackell, former resident, had died, were learned to have been unfounded, when on Friday The Herald received a letter from Aubrey E. Shackell, his son, who had been written regarding the authenticity of the rumor.

The Herald is happy to print in part Mr. Shackell's letter for the benefit of the many friends who had made inquiry:

"Father and I attended the White Socks and Yankees game last Saturday in New York. At that time he was in excellent health. I feel sure that he is yelling just as loud as ever at the umpire.

"I don't know where the rumor came from that he was dead, but I wish you would correct it."

Mr. Aubrey Shackell is now in Morehead City, where he is in charge of Atlantic Beach resort, and in his letter expressed a desire to meet Edenton friends during the summer at the resort.

HEAP BIG CHIEF



A. S. HOLLOWELL

Mr. Hollowell was on Tuesday elected Great Junior Sagamore of the Great Council of Red men held in Durham.

EDENTON HIGHS PLAYING TODAY FOR STATE TITLE

Crack Baseball Team Opposes Burlington, Western Champions, At Chapel Hill

Edenton High School's baseball team will play for the State Class B championship on Thursday afternoon in Chapel Hill. Their opponents will be Burlington High School, western champions, who, it is reported, have an exceptionally strong and smooth-working aggregation, which should result in a battle royal for State honors.

Edenton won the right to play for the State title on Friday when they turned back the Rowland High School team on the Snow Hill diamond by the score of 10 to 3. Lester Jordan, star mound performer for Edenton, was in the box and at no time during the game was he in any particular danger, pitching a good brand of ball throughout the game and keeping his opponents' eight hits pretty well scattered, while he sent eight to the bench by way of the strike-out route. Rowland was unable to score until the sixth inning, when two runs were made, another being added in the eighth inning.

Edenton took an early lead, scoring two runs in the first inning and pushed runners across in the second, fourth, sixth and ninth innings. Aside from gathering 11 hits off McCallum and Britt, Rowland twirlers, the Edenton team played an excellent defensive game, Wozelka and Cayton being the only players charged with an error. At the bat, Cayton led his teammates with three hits out of five trips to the plate, while Layton, Byrum, Sexton and Spencer each made a pair of bingles. For Rowland Bottoms at shortstop was high man with three hits and McRimmon following with two.

Layton, who has an injured finger, was again forced to play in the field, his regular berth at second base being taken by Wozelka. Aside from this substitution the team was lined up in the regular positions as follows: Spruill, catcher; Jordan, pitcher; Cayton, shortstop; Boyce, first base; Wozelka, second base; Byrum, third base; Layton, left field; Worth Spencer, centerfield; and Calvin Sexton, right field.

This same lineup no doubt will be pitted against the western champions on Thursday in Chapel Hill and Coach Leon Brogden has every reason to believe that if his boys do not win the championship, they will be able to let the western boys know they were in the ball game. Local baseball fans anticipate a hard-fought game and a number of them are planning to see the game.